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REMARKS

The Examiner has stated in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance the following: "[t]he prior arts of record, however, fail to teach singly or in combination 'a macro virus definition database being organized into a hierarchy based on the type of application to which the macro applies, wherein a parameter specifying a threshold to matches of commonly shared string constants...'"

In response, applicant points out that at least some of the independent claims are not limited to at least the features highlighted above, as noted by the Examiner. Just by way of example, at least some of applicant's independent claims are not limited to "a macro virus definition database being organized into a hierarchy based on the type of application to which the macro applies" as the Examiner notes. In addition, at least some of applicant's independent claims do not specifically state "wherein a parameter specifying a threshold to matches of commonly shared string constants," as the Examiner further notes (emphasis added).

Clearly, at least some of the independent claims are not limited to the features that the Examiner has noted in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, as emphasized above (by way of example). Instead, each of the claims should only be limited by the language existing therein.

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In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 505-5100. For payment of the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1351 (Order No. NAI1P373/99.111.01).

Respectfully submitted,
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